

Seek Playmate As Unwitting Slayer of Girl

Police Believe Boy With Christmas Rifle Fired Shot Accidentally, Then Fled McCarthy Home in Terror

Murder Theory Dropped

Story of Man in Sailor Hat Seen Near Shooting Called Neighborhood Gossip

The small caliber bullet that pierced the heart and killed instantly ten-year-old Theresa McCarthy in the dining room of her home, at 562 Morgan Avenue, Brooklyn, about noon Tuesday, was fired accidentally by a child, presumably a playmate of Theresa's, the police were convinced last night.

The murder theory apparently has been rejected by detectives working on the case. The man-in-the-sailor-hat report was dismissed as neighborhood gossip. Captain Daniel J. Carey, in charge of the 11th Inspection District detectives, and others made it clear that they believed the person who did the shooting was a boy, and most likely one living within a short distance of the narrow stone stoop of the McCarthy home or in the neighborhood from which Theresa recently moved—an Italian section.

The pistol or rifle from which the bullet had been fired probably was a Christmas present, the police believe, and was taken to the McCarthy apartment by a child eager to show it to Theresa.

Frightened by Death
After the weapon had been discharged and Theresa had fallen, according to the police theory, the child holding the pistol or rifle, frightened and excited, left the apartment through the door he had entered it—the dining room door—stole down the dingy carpeted hallway and reached the street through the front door. The dining room door, which is at the rear of the first floor hallway and behind the stairway which leads to the second floor, is equipped with a spring lock. The door could have been locked easily by closing it. The question of keys to the apartment is, therefore, of no importance, provided, as the police believe, that the person who entered the apartment was admitted by Theresa herself.

Captain Carey, in giving reasons for the belief that Theresa was an accident victim, pointed out that the course of the bullet after piercing the heart of the child was horizontal, indicating that it had been fired by a person in the hands of a person about Theresa's height.

Edward McCarthy, father of the girl, who had been living apart from Mrs. McCarthy, but who was stationed at length at the Greenpoint Avenue station by Captain Carey, it was definitely established that McCarthy, an artilleryman overseas and now employed as a painter, was elsewhere during the entire day. It was also definitely established that Benjamin Prendergast, who rooms at the McCarthy home and has one of the two keys to it, was not at the apartment from the early morning until evening.

Children Swarm to Stoop
There was no lack yesterday of children to interrogate. Boys and girls of the neighborhood, many of them of Theresa's age, swarmed about the stone stoop, peered through the doors opening into the vestibule and at times ventured into the hallway.

Scores of children were gathered about the stoop of 562 when the body of Theresa was brought by her home from the Kings County morgue, where the autopsy was performed. The body was placed in the front parlor at the spot on which Theresa's shimmering Christmas tree had stood until yesterday morning. Children fled in and out of the house for hours last night, the sidewalks remained congested and children stood in knots on the Meeker Avenue corner, two doors away.

The pupils of St. Cecilia's Parochial School, which Theresa attended, will be present at a requiem mass for her to be held to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock at St. Cecilia's Roman Catholic Church, Meeker and Richardson streets, Brooklyn. Pupils from the 5A grade—Theresa's grade—will be pallbearers. The interment will be held afterward.

First French Amateur Transmits Radio Here

Signals From Leon Deloy, at Nice, Are Heard by Gene E. Withom in Brooklyn
Special Dispatch to The Tribune

HARTFORD, Conn., Dec. 27.—The amateur radio station operated by Leon Deloy, at Nice, France, was heard last night by Gene E. Withom, of Brooklyn, the American Radio Relay League announced to-day. This is the first French amateur station ever heard by American amateurs. Reports that signals from Deloy's station were heard by Arthur S. Budlong at Washington, and C. H. Starr at St. Catharines, Ont., Canada, have not yet been confirmed.

Deloy's signals came in faintly, and for minutes at a time were inaudible, owing to the phenomena known as fading. Deloy was detailed by his government to this country during the war, and was attached to the United States Navy Department in the office of Captain D. W. Todd and later of Admiral Billard, directors of naval communications. He has been interested in radio since boyhood. In March, 1915, he was attached to the Eiffel Tower station. The English station operated by the Wireless Society of Great Britain was reported to-day as heard by two more American amateurs.

Bernhardt's Condition Continues Unchanged

Special Cable to The Tribune
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PARIS, Dec. 27.—The condition of Sarah Bernhardt remained unchanged to-day. This could be interpreted by those in intimate association with the tragedienne's household only as a bad sign, in view of Mrs. Bernhardt's age and the state of nervous and physical exhaustion she had reached when she broke down a week ago.

Mrs. Bernhardt's physician told The Tribune to-night it would be impossible to say at this time whether she would ever again be able to continue her work. Her condition demands absolute quiet, and this is almost impossible in Paris, where she is constantly disturbed by her friends, he said.

Members of the tragedienne's household were even more pessimistic, announcing that she was prostrated, unable even to sit up.

Reports that Mrs. Bernhardt was in danger of death, however, were ridiculous.

Nile Treasure Hunters Protest Ban by Egypt

Explorers Seek to Block Proposed Law Making All Relics Government Property

LONDON, Dec. 27.—Dispatches from Egypt to the London newspapers to-day stress the growing anxiety of foreign explorers over the new law which M. Lacau, the Egyptian government's conservator of antiquities, is drafting providing that all relics henceforth discovered shall belong solely to the government, and that the discoverers shall be denied the right to a share in them as heretofore.

American explorers are represented as participating in opposition to the law and are said to have signed with the English a joint document of protest which will be presented to King Fuad, the Egyptian Cabinet, M. Lacau and Field Marshal Viscount Allenby, the British High Commissioner.

U. S. Tied Up With Europe in History, Says Prof. Haskins

"Wars Over There Will Always Be Ours," Harvard Educator Holds in Speech at Association Meeting

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Dec. 27.—The relationship between the United States and the rest of the world in a historical sense was discussed here to-night by Professor Charles Homer Haskins, of Harvard University, who as president, delivered the first formal address of the session of the American Historical Association and nine Allied associations which opened to-day. He spoke on "European history and American scholarship."

Professor Haskins, in speaking of the world as a historical unit, said: "It is the historian's business to tie up Europe and America. He is bound to see the United States as a part of a whole. Europe, America and Asia are one in history."

In discussing the question of wars Professor Haskins said: "Great European wars always have been American wars."

Professor Haskins praised the work of the American Historical Foundation in developing high scholarship among American historians, and expressed himself in favor of the traveling scholarships, by which the "vision and understanding" of historians might be broadened.

In an earlier session Mrs. George M. Minor, of Watford, Conn., president general of the Daughters of the American Revolution, spoke on the preservation of American standards and ideals. She said in part:

"To one big thought I want to leave with you is this: You of American tradition and background—you must save this country."

After speaking on the growing number of foreign born in the United States, she said:

"We are always beginning to see our American background vanishing here and there in the dimness of the past. That background must be painted in again in un fading, living colors."

Former Secretary of State Robert Lansing will preside at a joint meeting of the Archaeological Institute of America and the American Historical Association to-morrow morning.

3 Liners Win Way Here in Record Gale

(Continued from page one)

ter, Thelma, a dancer, found the trip so terrifying that her hair turned gray. It was left black, she said, when the ship left Havre, December 10. She exhibited gray streaks in her hair yesterday. Passengers on La Savoie are going to give Captain Boisson a silver loving cup to-day in token of their appreciation of his seamanship, courage and endurance. He remained on the bridge continuously during the storm and not once during the trip did he get a chance to change his clothes. Captain Boisson said it was due to the radio operators, the ship's officer and the men of its crew that the vessel reached port safely and undamaged, except for twisted rails and the shattered port in the Clark's cabin.

Captain E. Diggs of the Caronia reported that the vessel down to 172 miles for the twenty-four hours of December 21. During this period of stress three starboard ports were smashed by seas and the ship had to be hoisted to give the carpenter a chance to board up the apertures.

In forging about into the wind, the Caronia was thrust over to an angle of 24½ degrees as the wind caught it broad on. It was not until Christmas when the liner was off Halifax, that there was any respite from the storm.

Captain Carroll Higgins of the Marquis Yvonne de Frayssiac, a French pointer, the liner also brought a stevedore, Adelin J. Bovy, a seventeen-year-old Belgian, who was discovered the first day out hiding in a lifeboat. He was deported.

Mr. and Mrs. Augustine Healy, of Chicago, returned on the Caronia after a three months' trip into the jungles of British East Africa. Mr. Healy shot a rhinoceros, whose longest horn was thirty-seven inches in length, and Mrs. Healy bagged the third largest lion ever shot in the Kenya colony, measuring ten and a quarter feet from nose to tail tip.

Others on the ship included J. Milne Barbour, M. P. of Belfast, who will pass a few weeks with J. Edward Balfour at the latter's home in Paterson, N. J.; Mr. and Mrs. Percy Farquhar, Ben Davies, Colonel Rupert G. Dawson, Mrs. Dawson and their daughter and Mrs. Jean Millward.

La Savoie had 2,000 sacks and the Caronia 4,849 sacks of Christmas mail.

Earl of Granard Inspects City's Police Station System

The Earl of Granard, who is passing the holidays with the Countess of Granard at the home of the latter's father, Ogden Mills, 2 East Sixty-ninth Street, inspected the East Sixty-ninth Street police station yesterday in accordance with an arrangement made in his behalf with Acting Captain Archipolla.

A patrolman has been stationed on fixed post in front of the home of Mr. Mills since the arrival of the latter's guests.

Police to Honor Heroes

Five Dead To Be Inscribed on Headquarters Tablet

Inscription of five more names on the bronze tablets at Police Headquarters of men in the department killed in performance of duty was begun yesterday. Sixty-three names were there already. The policemen whose names are being added are:

Patrolman Charles D. Potter, Bridge Precinct, lost his life on July 22, 1921, in an attempt to rescue his daughter, Catherine, from drowning. Detective Sergeants William A. Miller and Francis J. M. Buckley, West 135th Street station, shot and killed January 5, 1922, while attempting to arrest Luther Boddy, negro, who has since been executed in Sing Sing.

Patrolman John H. McMail, Brownsville station, Brooklyn, shot and killed while pursuing a handit on March 15, 1922.

Patrolman Otto W. Metz, West 135th Street station, shot and killed by an insane negro who snatched the revolver from the patrolman's holster while both were in the assembly room of the West 123d Street station.

Lockwood Report to Legislature Is Held Only for Last Draft

Committee Ready to Push Bills to Bring Exchange, Insurance Rate Fixing and Unions Under State Control

The Lockwood committee all but completed yesterday at an executive session at the office of Samuel Untermyer the task of drafting its report to the Legislature and preparing the remedial bills which will be submitted with it. Another meeting will be held to-morrow, at which time it is expected that the final draft of the proposed legislation and the report will be adopted.

With the changes in both Senate and Assembly, resulting from the last election, it is expected that a more determined drive than ever will be made to have enacted measures which Mr. Untermyer is particularly interested in and which failed at the last session only after a most determined fight.

It is known that an effort will be made to bring big business under the regulation of a State Trade Commission, the measure being directed principally against such bodies as the Stock Exchange and the rating agencies of the fire insurance companies.

Mr. Untermyer is equally determined to press his fight for legislation giving the state some measure of authority over the labor unions. During the course of the committee's investigation the unions connected with the building trades have been under fire repeatedly and the committee's chief counsel is set on legislating out of existence some of the abuses which were uncovered.

Senator Charles C. Lockwood, who has headed the committee since its organization, will not be in the new Legislature to lead the fight on the floor for the bills. He will retire from public life on January 1 to resume the practice of law. His place on the committee probably will be taken by Senator Ward V. Tolbert, of Manhattan.

It is likely that Mr. Untermyer will be in Albany while the measures are up for consideration.

At the close of yesterday's meeting Mr. Untermyer said that considerable progress had been made in agreeing on the text of both report and legislation and that the work would probably be completed to-morrow.

Dead Woman in 'Ghost House' Is Found by Boys

(Continued from page one)

into the night like lidless eyes, alert to ferret out small boys.

"Listen," directed Jimmy.

"Tap, tap, tap," came the sound of something striking feebly but with regularity against the window pane.

"Look!" ordered Jimmy.

They looked. At first they could see nothing except the black, blank expanse of the lidless eyes. Then they perceived something of a waxy whiteness which regularly approached the pane from the deeper gloom within the house and then momentarily disappeared, following one of the eerie tapings.

Tell Policeman of Hand

With one accord Jimmy and his fellows arose and fled, each confident that the faint "tap, tap, tap" kept pace with him. Not until they were out in the street and in comforting proximity to a street lamp did the boys pause.

When they did so they perceived Patrolman Brian J. Smith, of the Wakefield police station, towering above them, and, to the astonishment of that harrier of bonfire-building boys, greeted him with a warmth which amounted almost to affection.

"There's a hand," gasped one of the boys.

"A dead hand—" put in another.

"It keeps tappin' at the waxy whiteness there," chorused the boys, pointing to the "ghost house."

Patrolman Smith set out indifferently to investigate, and the boys resumed their speedy progress away from there. Even Patrolman Smith was somewhat startled at perceiving the waxy hand at the window and has perplexity increased when there was no response to his knock at the door.

He forced it open and was greeted by a quivering, despairing wall in a woman's voice.

"This way!" it said. "This way!"

Crooping in the darkness, stumbling over packing cases, rolled-up carpets and other impediments, Smith found another door, opened it and turned his flash light on the form of a woman, gray-haired and emaciated who crouched at a window.

Sister Dead of Starvation

The beam of his electric torch smote her full in the eye, but she did not flinch, keeping her face full toward her visitor. It came upon Smith that this was the blind sister.

"Look in the next room," she said, pointing to a door. "I think my sister is dead."

Smith looked. The other sister, Louise Christensen, was dead, stretched out on a bed rigid and cold. He called an ambulance. Dr. Hyman Borahaw, of Fordham Hospital, declared that Louise, who was seventy-five years old, had died from starvation and the weakness of age.

Her blind sister, Amelia, who is eighty-two, was almost dead from the same cause. She was taken to the hospital. While being carried to the ambulance she was continuously warning Smith to take good care of the money that was hidden in the house, for she would need it, now that she was alone.

Smith searched the house thoroughly. Scarcely a vase or jug or other receptacle but had a few copper in it. He emptied them all on a table and counted them. It amounted to \$3.75. There were also found five potatoes and about a pint of milk.

The blind woman at the hospital sent word to be sure to obtain the dead

to the property. It was in a blue vase, she said. Smith obediently hunted through the five rooms, three of which had long been unoccupied and were filled with dusty and disabled furniture, until he found the blue vase with the dead in it, which showed the sisters had owned the property since 1881.

As he departed his foot struck something in the overgrown path

which bounced aside with a resonant thump and lost itself in the bushes. It was the football which had saved the life of blind Amelia.

Amundsen's Injured Arm Put Under X-Ray for Examination

Nome, Alaska, Dec. 27 (By The Associated Press).—Captain Roald

Amundsen, the Norwegian explorer, now leader of an expedition to North Pole, is having trouble with an arm which was fractured off when he took the Gjøa from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean through the northwest Passage from 1903 to 1906. Captain Amundsen, who is writing here, has had an X-ray examination made of his arm.

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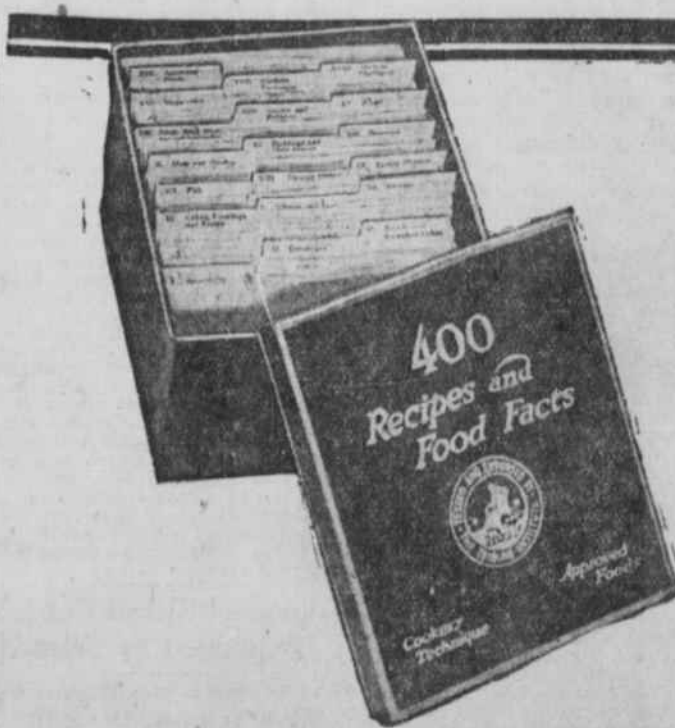
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